

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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14

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 122915

Z O 220645Z DEC 75

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 3724

UTABA/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA FLASH

INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE

NMCC WASHDC

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

COMMNAVTELCOM WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHIMXEN

COMIDEASTFOR

NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA

NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI

CNO WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 1009

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT ET

SUBJECT: KIDNAPPING OF CISCO EMPLOYEE: FURTHER DETAILS

REF: NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA C

OPERIP - 212018Z DEC 75

1. RONALD B. MICHALKE, TECH CONTROL OPERATOR WITH DOD-CONTRACTOR COLLINS INTERNATIONAL SERVICE CO. (CISCO) WAS ABDUCTED BY FIVE UNIDENTIFIED ETHIOPIANS AT 2230 HOURS LOCAL DEC 21. ABDUCTORS APPARENTLY KNOCKED ON DOOR OF MICHALKE'S HOME AT NO. 60 STRADA 706, ASMARA AT 2200 HOURS AND WHEN OCCUPANTS REFUSED TO ADMIT THEM THEY BROKE DOOR IN. AT LEAST ONE OF FIVE WAS ARMED WITH SUB-MACHINEGUN AND HE HELD MICALKE, HIS HOUSEBOY AND GIRLFRIEND AT BAY WHILE OTHERS TOOK TWO MBREO SYSTEMS, SEVERAL SHEETS AND SOME CLOTHING WITH U.S. AND ETHIOPIAN MONEY. THEY CUT TELEPHONE  
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WIRE AND AFTER ABOUT HALF HOUR LEFT ON FOOT WITH MICHALKE AND

HOUSEBOY. ACCORDING TO GIRLFRIEND, AT NO TIME DID ABDUCTORS IDENTIFY THEMSELVES OR THEIR AFFILIATION.

2. AFTER ABDUCTORS DEPARTED, GIRLFRIEND RAN TO ADJOINING COMPOUND OCCUPIED BY ANOTHER AMERICAN CISCO EMPLOYEE (WHO WAS SPENDING NIGHT AT TRACT ECHO) AND REPORTED INCIDENT TO LATTER'S GIRLFRIEND, WHO REPORTED IT TO OIC NAVCOMMUNIT. AT 2250 HOURS OIC REPORTED INCIDENT TO COL. ELMA, SECURITY OFFICER, 2ND DIVISION, AND TO CONGEN AT 2300 HOURS. JSNV2325 HOURS APO CONTACTED COL. ZENEBE, CO EPMG REACTION FORCE IN ASMARA. HE HAD BEEN INFORMED OF ABDUCTION AND HAD DISPATCHED TROOPS TO MICHALKE'S HOME AND NEIGHBORHOOD.

3. MORNING OF DEC. 22, COL. TELEHUN, ACTING CO EPMG FORCES IN ERITREA INFORMED OIC NAVCOMMUNIT THAT HOUSE-TO-HOUSE SEARCH BEING CONDUCTED IN NEIGHBORHOOD OF ABDUCTION; WITNESSES CONFIRM THIS OPERATION. ROADBLOCKS HAVE BEEN SET UP AT VARIOUS POINTS IN TOWN. TELEHUN SEEMED CONVINCED THAT ABDUCTORS COULD NOT HAVE SLIPPED OUT OF ASMARA DURING NIGHT. WE BELIEVE THAT AS MICHALKE'S HOME IS LOCATED ON VERY EDGE OF ASMARA, THAT ABDUCTORS AND VICTIMS COULD EASILY ESCAPE INTO COUNTRYSIDE UNDER COVER OF NIGHT. WAUCHOPE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** KIDNAPPING, REPORTS, PHYSICAL SECURITY, TERRORISTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 DEC 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** johnsorg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975ASMARA01009  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750443-0943  
**From:** ASMARA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19751220/aaaaarmm.tel  
**Line Count:** 83  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** johnsorg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 25 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <25 JUN 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <06 NOV 2003 by johnsorg>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** KIDNAPPING OF CISCO EMPLOYEE: FURTHER DETAILS  
**TAGS:** PINS, PINT, ET, (MICHALKE, RONALD B)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006